# SouthCambs

MAGAZINE • AUTUMN 2012

**INSIDE //** ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH // COMMUNITY // CONSERVATION // OLYMPICS // PLANNING // KEY ISSUES – TENANTS' NEWS

# New jobs, new homes – have your say

See page 16

South Cambridgeshire District Council

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## Welcome to the Autumn issue of *South Cambs Magazine*.

In this edition we take a closer look at growth as we have begun the discussion with residents on how the district should be developed over the next 20 years. Experts are forecasting growth for jobs, but we're asking everyone to have their say on whether these should be supported with new homes so existing residents, and future generations, have somewhere to live. These decisions are arguably some of the biggest for the area and that's why it is so important for everyone to have their say during our consultation (see page 16).

**Cllr Ray Manning,** Leader,
South Cambridgeshire District Council

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**South Cambs Magazine**

South Cambridgeshire District Council

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**Our Vision**

- South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live and work in the country. Our district will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have a superb quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment. The Council will be recognised as consistently innovative and a high performer with a track record of delivering value for money by focussing on the priorities, needs and aspirations of our residents, parishes and businesses.

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- by email to feedback@scambs.gov.uk
- in writing to the customer service coordinator at our main office.

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# Open art exhibition

**@theatrium – the outstanding new exhibition space at Cottenham Sixth Form Centre –** will be hosting the annual Rheebridge Open Art Exhibition from 23 to 25 November. It showcases hundreds of artworks, from contemporary and traditional paintings to sculptures and prints.

The exhibition invites artwork from visual artists. There is no commission charged on work sold, and all entries have the chance to win £1,000 in prizes. This year the exhibition also features a Young Artists Competition, which can be entered through the website (see below).

A preview reception, with wine and canapés, will take place from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Friday 23 November at £5 a ticket. Admission is free to visitors attending on Saturday 24 November, from 10am to 5pm, and on Sunday 25 November, from 10am to 4pm.

**For information about entering artworks, or visiting the exhibition, visit www.attheatrium.org.uk**

● New exhibition space at Cottenham Sixth Form Centre

# Celebrating local art

**Our team of arts development managers will be launching the all new Emerge Festival in February to celebrate fantastic arts events taking place across South Cambridgeshire.**

The programme will include Custard Comedy shows with top acts from the comedy circuit, the annual Energise youth dance, the stART Awards and a film extravaganza.

If you are in a local group and would like your activities promoted as part of the festival - whether you are staging a show, hanging an exhibition, are part of a writing group or hosting a jam session - get in touch with your local arts development manager (see below) or visit www.start-arts.org.uk

# Keeping in touch

**Through stART** – a partnership between us and the district's village colleges – we work with a network of five arts development managers to create a range of high-quality, community-based arts programmes. They can provide help for any local group looking for support with arts activities, funding, marketing and project management. They are:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Comberton** | Richard Brown | richard@start-arts.org.uk | (01223) 264444 |
| **Cottenham & Impington** | Amy Wormald | amy@start-arts.org.uk | (01954) 288748 |
| **Melbourn** | Kirstin Bicknell | kirstin@start-arts.org.uk | 07770 643165 |
| **Sawston & Linton** | Lesley Morgan | lesley@start-arts.org.uk | (01223) 712825 |
| **Swavesey** | Karen Thomas | karen@start-arts.org.uk | (01954) 234476 |

**If you don't have an arts development manager in your area contact Richard Hales on 03450 450 500 or arts@scambs.gov.uk**
**For more information visit www.start-arts.org.uk and for event listings visit www.cambridgeshire.net**

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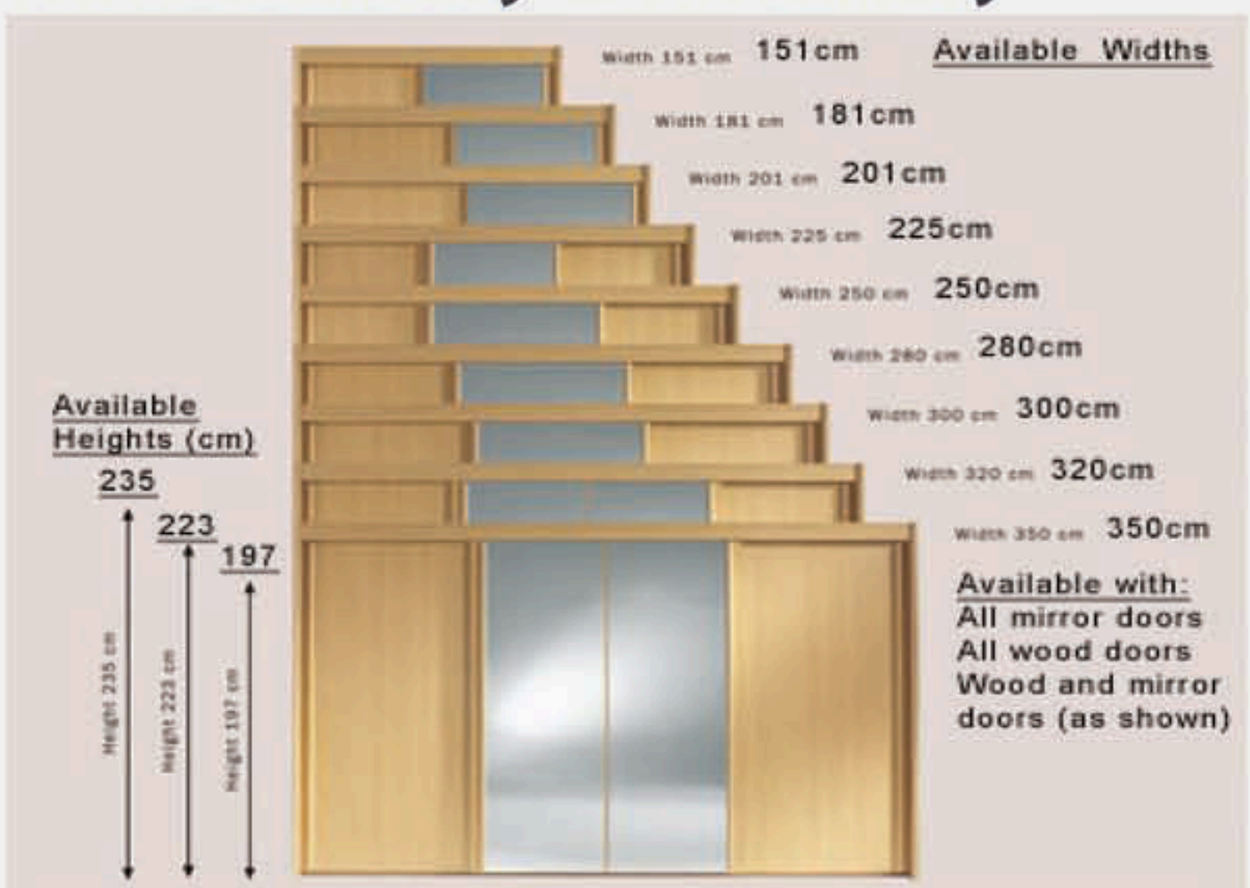


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# Clock ticking to make a bid for community cash

**A final call to local voluntary and community groups is being made by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation – a grant making registered charity offering support in Cambridgeshire.**

Earlier this year we launched a £100,000 reward grant fund in partnership with Cambridge City Council - to be run by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) - and community groups, charities and not-for profit organisations still have until 15 September to make a bid for the second and final round of funding.

CCF holds over 40 charitable funds awarding £5.5million to over 2,250 projects in their eight years, including many in South Cambridgeshire. CCF's donors range from national household names, such as Mars and Microsoft, to local people, families and companies, including Ridgeons and Cheffins. Recent grants in the area include Milton Community Care Scheme which helps local elderly residents, the Sawston Youth Group for a residential trip, and Horningsea Village Hall Trust for an extension to the hall.

The City and South Cambs Reward Grants currently available are for between £1,000 and £5,000. They are aimed at projects working to reduce inequality, including helping young people find employment. CCF are also looking for applicants to other funds, including projects needing help to build, maintain or improve public amenities such as playgrounds, village halls and community sports facilities.

**To find out more, or make a bid for funding, please visit www.cambscf.org.uk, or contact Cambridgeshire Community Foundation by email info@cambscf.org.uk or telephone 01223 410535**

# Sights set on global stage

**Both Swavesey Venue and Sawston Cinema have seen audiences grow for their film screenings, and they now have exciting plans to draw even more crowds.**

Both settings are installing satellite dishes to stream live performances from prestigious venues such as the National Theatre in London and the New York Met Opera.

For more about the cinemas, and to find out what's on, visit www.sawstoncinema.org.uk or search for Swavesey Venue on Facebook.

# Collision Carnival

**A carnival extravaganza connecting five communities in a 500 strong carnival band performed at Carnival Crossroads Eastbound in Luton on 8 July.** The regional project was designed to build a lasting cultural and sporting legacy of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Artists and musicians from the UK Centre for Carnival Arts led workshops in dance, costume and music at Comberton, Impington and Sawston, and one hundred of those who took part in the parade were from Cambridgeshire.

● TOP Impington Village College: 'The River of Innovation' MIDDLE Sawston Village College: 'The Samba Rhythm of Life' BOTTOM Cambourne Bloco Dancers: 'New Places'

# Bike bank is on the money

● Photo left to right - Matthew Stead (16), Dan Allison (15), George Colston (16), John Chilton (16) all from Melbourn who completed the training programme

**A project to help improve access for young people to work, education and training has been hailed a success following a six-week pilot in Melbourn.**

Four young people completed 'Bike Bank' training in July, equipping them with a recognised qualification in cycle maintenance and the bike they worked on during their course – to help them to get around more easily. The bikes were donated by Cambridgeshire police after being reconditioned by young people at Little Hey prison.

The project was launched after feedback showed that a lack of suitable transport is one factor that puts young people at risk of finding themselves not in education, employment or training.

George Colston, 16, a participant on the pilot course from Melbourn, said: "I came to this class because it gave me some good experience in fixing my bike. Before I had to chuck away a bike, or a part, and give up because I didn't know what to do."

The lessons we learnt with our partners involved in the project – including the County and local parish councils, Melbourn Village College, a local youth group and the young people themselves – are being put together into a pack which will be made available so that other communities can explore setting up a course in their area. Further funding is also being sought by the partners on the Melbourn pilot so courses can be run elsewhere.

**For more information contact Kathryn Hawkes at South Cambridgeshire District Council on 01954 713290 or kathryn.hawkes@scambs.gov.uk**

# Your bus services

**Users of local buses will have noticed some changes to services in recent weeks.** The County Council is engaging with residents and passengers to check that the new services are fulfilling their needs, with a view to tailoring the services. The most significant changes have been:

- **No. 19** – This revised service is being delivered by the Voluntary Network. They operate a 12 seater minibus on a broadly two hour basis from Burrough Green to Linton via Weston Colville, West Wratting, West Wickham and Balsham. It then travels on to Haverhill via Bartlow and the Camps. Contact The Voluntary Network on 01638 608022.
- **No. 7a** – This service is being run by NCS Contract Services Ltd and travels between Sawston, Whittlesford (various stops), Heathfield and Hinxton approximately every two hours. Contact NCS on 01799 542808.
- **No. 2** – This is a Whippet service once per day at peak times morning and evening covering the villages of Boxworth, Conington, Elsworth, Knapwell, Caldecote, Toft, Hardwick, Dry Drayton, Madingley, Coton and onwards into Cambridge. Contact 01954 230011.
- **No. 16** – This is a A&P Coaches service, Tuesdays and Fridays only. It runs between Teversham, the Wilbrahams and Newmarket via Fulbourn and Six Mile Bottom, giving you around two and a half hours to spend in Newmarket. Contact 01353 720430.

**For more information on these new timetables, and all bus services, visit the County Council's website at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/around/ You can also contact the County Council's passenger transport team by emailing passenger.transport@cambridgeshire.gov.uk with feedback about services**

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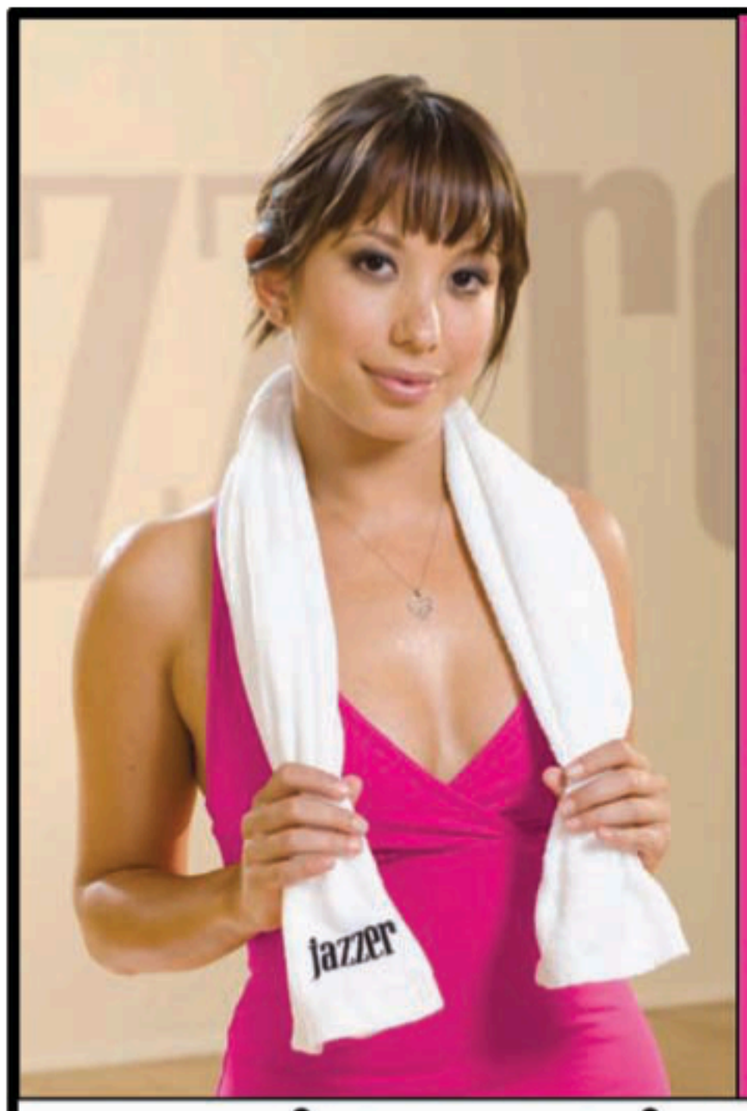


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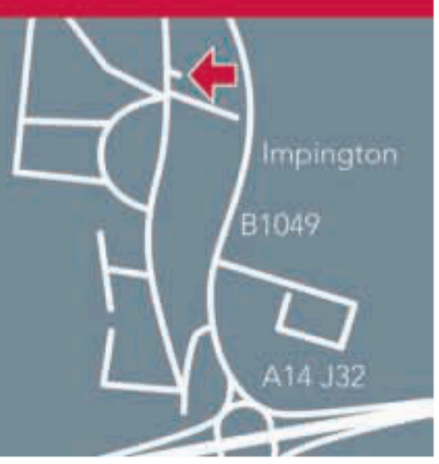

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**Thursday 11th October 7pm – 8pm**
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**Thursday 25th October 7pm - 8pm**
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# Investing in people to deliver even better services

**In the year of London 2012, we have also reached the podium with a national award for our work to improve the services we deliver to residents.**

We have been awarded the Investor in People silver mark for making sure that our staff and councillors are equipped with the right skills and experience to provide the best levels of service to residents and businesses in the district.

We achieved the Investors in People bronze award in 2009, and the silver mark of approval puts us in the top 3% of organisations who have bid for recognition in East Anglia.

To achieve the silver status, an independent assessment team spent time talking to staff and councillor representatives from all service areas to test the progress of learning and development within the Council and how this benefits our residents.

Awarding us the silver mark, the assessors said that development of employees was firmly at the heart of the business that had led to improving services for residents.

Cllr Simon Edwards, South Cambridgeshire District Council's cabinet member for staffing, said: "I am delighted that our investment in the development of our staff and councillors has been recognised by the achievement of the Investor In People silver award. This mark of approval shows how committed we are to delivering excellent services and how councillors and our employees continually seek to improve efficiency and provide value for money services. Hitting the gold standard is our next challenge."

# Council Tax benefit is changing from April 2013

**The Government is handing over the running of Council Tax benefit to local councils in April, but will also be cutting the money we receive by around £1 million.**

Each council will be developing a scheme for localised council tax support with its own rules.

Our priority is to put in place a scheme which identifies, then lessens the impact, for our most vulnerable residents. But at the same time the scheme must be affordable given reduced funding. In identifying and supporting vulnerable groups, we will need to take into account the effects on other claimants' benefits whilst still encouraging people who could work, back into employment. The changes will only affect working age claimants – pensioners will be protected and will not have their benefits reduced.

We are seeking the views of residents on how we can achieve these aims, and our view at this stage is that we should also protect people with disabilities and lone parents with children under five.

We are having discussions with residents who stand to be most affected by the changes, but a consultation has been launched to gather all residents' views. These will be used to shape a new scheme.

The consultation began on Wednesday 1 August and runs until Friday 5 October.

You will find the details of the consultation and questionnaire on our website at www.scambs.gov.uk/ctsupport, together with details of consultation events, or call 03450 450061.

# New team to safeguard and improve local services

• new team of councillors looks to tackle issues to improve local services

**Our Scrutiny and Overview Committee acts as a local watchdog, ready to investigate residents' concerns about any local services, whichever organisation provides them.** The Committee cannot directly change services but it makes recommendations for improvement, based on evidence and good practice.

In May the Committee said a fond farewell to Cllrs Liz Heazell and Mike Mason when they retired from the Council, and to Cllr James Hockney on his move to the Cabinet. The new line-up, pictured, is now ready to tackle a fresh set of issues on behalf of residents.

For their first review the Committee plans to work with two parish councils on ways to improve the 'street scene' in their villages – such as signage and finding the best way to make sure the village is kept tidy. They will look at services and facilities run by the parish, district and county councils and help to solve problems identified by local people.

The Committee's new chairman, Cllr Ben Shelton said: "This review will involve working closely with parish representatives and residents. It will help to show that the Council is committed to the Government's localism agenda – moving decisions and influence closer to individuals and the community.

"We want to make sure that residents' experiences and suggestions are really heard by involving a range of people, including a school-based workshop for our younger residents."

The committee has several other topics planned over the next few months, including bus and community transport, housing vulnerable young people and a policy for building new council housing. There will also be a workshop for commenting on a new council tax benefit scheme which is currently out for consultation; this will need to deliver a budget reduction imposed by the Government and yet protect the most vulnerable. See page 11 for more on this topic.

In November the Committee will scrutinise the Council's finances; and this year there are plans to involve the new Youth Council too. There will be an informal workshop where youth councillors and the Committee can look at how the budget is drafted and the potential impact on services of any proposed changes. Cllr Shelton said: "We are really looking forward to working with the Youth Council and what better place to start than the most important issue of all – the budget. It is only right that tomorrow's citizens are involved in shaping tomorrow's council services."

**If you would like to have a say on any of these topics, or suggest any other issue for scrutiny, email scrutiny@scambs.gov.uk or ring the Policy and Performance Team on 01954 713366**

# Police commissioner election

Credit: Permission of the Electorial Commision

**On 15 November residents will join people across the UK in voting for their first ever Police and Crime Commissioner, marking the biggest change to policing for many years.** The elected commissioner for Cambridgeshire will replace the Cambridgeshire police authority, setting local priorities and deciding how their proportion of council tax is spent on crime and policing issues.

Commissioners will be elected using the Supplementary Vote system, which will see electors being asked to mark both their first and second choice candidates in separate columns on their ballot paper. Second choice votes will come into play if no candidate receives 50% of the first choice vote.

Whilst this election and voting system may be new, most electors will be voting in their usual polling stations. Look out for poll cards later in the year which will keep you informed of any changes.

With elections taking place in November, the annual registration of electors has been brought forward. If you have not returned your form to us, please do so now. It will ensure that you can vote in elections over the next year.

**For information and guidance on the Police and Crime Commissioner elections, including how to stand as a candidate, visit the Home Office website at www.homeoffice.gov.uk. For information on registering to vote, or absent voting, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/elections or call 03450 455 214**

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# Link-up helps prevent homelessness

**An initiative with the Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) to help residents face financial problems at an early stage is proving successful in keeping families in their homes.**

The current economic downturn has squeezed household budgets across the country – with national figures suggesting a 25% rise in the number of people becoming homeless. However, by setting up a system to refer people for financial advice before they are at serious risk of losing their home, we are preventing some people from finding themselves in that situation.

Our housing team set up the referral system so that anyone struggling to pay their bills can sit down with a CAB advisor before their financial difficulties become too overwhelming. We have been running the scheme for around 12 months and in a three month period this summer alone it helped prevent 19 families from becoming homeless. Our housing team has seen the number of people getting in touch for advice build over the last couple of years and we have taken on two extra members of staff to make sure we can give the best advice possible to people who need support. We're still urging more people to come forward though.

• **ABOVE Face to face sessions are available to give financial advice**

Cllr Mark Howell, cabinet member for housing, said: "We recognise the pressure many families are under as they try to make ends meet and want to try and give support to prevent homelessness. It is always best to get in touch at an early stage as this often means there are far more options open to tackle the problems. Unfortunately, there are never enough social rented homes to meet the demand, and that's why it is all the more important that you seek advice early so we have more opportunity to help you stay where you are. Please remember, you are not alone as our very dedicated team are here to help you."

**For housing advice, including more information about referrals to the CAB for financial help, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/housing, or contact the housing team on 0345 451 051 or housing@scambs.gov.uk**

# Important changes to housing benefit

**If you live in a council or housing association home, and have one or more 'spare' bedrooms, your housing benefit may be reduced. This will affect all tenants under pensionable age from April 2013.**

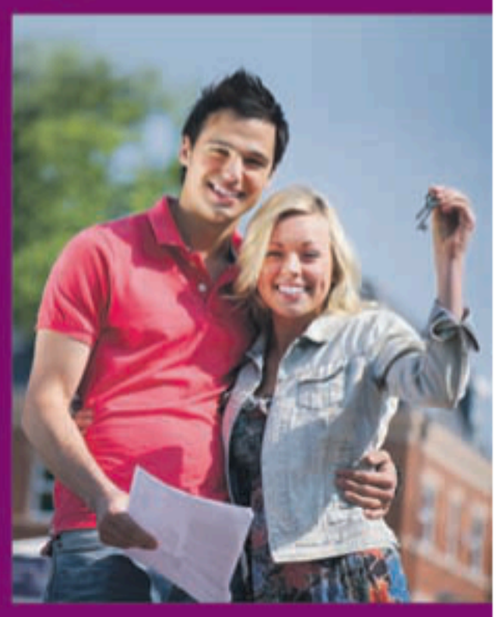
Under the new rules, anyone with more bedrooms than the Government says you need, will lose part of their benefit. Regulations will allow one bedroom for each of the following:

- every adult couple (married or unmarried)
- any other adult aged 16 or over
- two children of the same sex aged under 16
- two children regardless of sex aged under 10
- any other child aged under 16
- a carer (who does not normally live with you) if you or your partner need overnight care.

Everyone affected will be contacted over the next few months. Contact your landlord if you want to speak to someone about the changes.

# Thought you couldn't afford a home of your own?

# Think again!



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Most insurance providers simply don't want the business as they perceive the risk as being too great. However, at Quoteline Direct we like to do things a little differently. As an independent broker we have access to a wide range of underwriters specialising in unoccupied property insurance. Our expert consultants will carefully assess your needs and present your case to our panel of insurers. And by taking this bespoke approach; we are confident that we can save you some serious money.

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- Cover when let, council's name or private tenant.
- One policy for all - when insuring an unoccupied property and the circumstances change, e.g. the property becomes ready to let or occupied, we change the cover saving on cancellation charges and time.

## Easy to switch when the property becomes occupied again!

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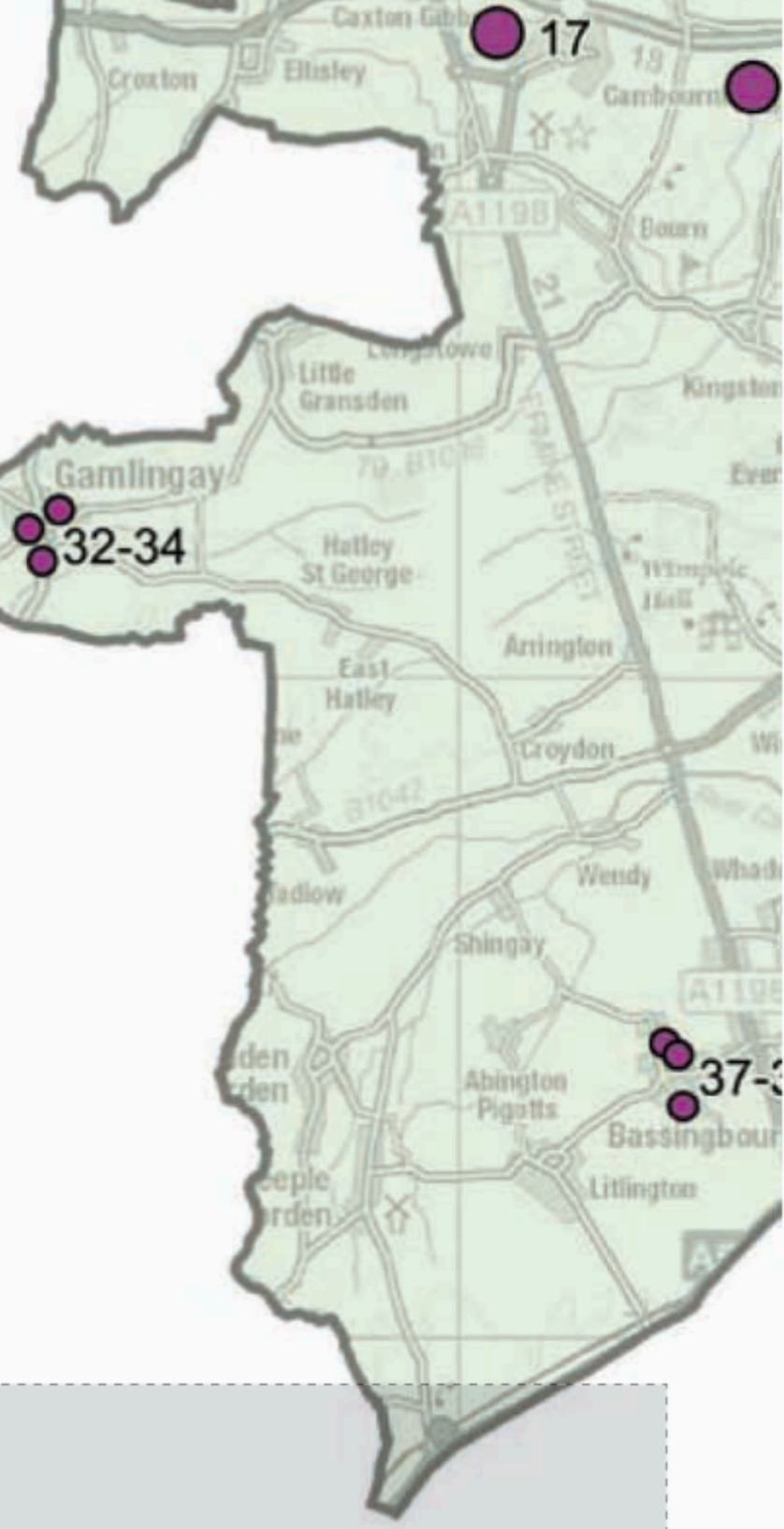
# 20 year plan for new jobs and new homes – have your say

**Residents, businesses and stakeholders are all being urged to have their say on how our district should be developed over the next 20 years to support up to 30,000 new jobs.**

We launched a public consultation on Thursday 12 July to gather views on a new Local Plan for South Cambridgeshire – a document that sets out how our area will be developed to provide new jobs and homes up until 2031. The district is consistently recognised as one of the top places to live, work and study in the country due to the thriving economy, attractive environment and quality of life residents enjoy.

However, we now need to make sure we have an up to date plan that can continue our success by providing for new jobs and homes, while protecting and enhancing what makes South Cambridgeshire a special place.

This stage of the consultation on the Local Plan is known as 'issues and options', and as the title would suggest, we will be asking you to consider the key issues for the new plan, including a number of options for how we could plan for the future. At this stage no decisions have been made and the Local Plan will have to go through a number of stages, including a consultation on a draft plan and public examination before it can be adopted in 2015.




**To help you have your say we have a number of ways for you to get in touch and find out more:**

- Public consultation events – come along to one of our public exhibitions. In total 15 events are being held, details of the events in September are in the box below
- Online – you can read the consultation documents, and give your views online, by visiting www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan
- Questionnaires – a short ten question leaflet covering the most significant issues being debated for the entire district is available. This is in addition to the full consultation document that covers all 116 questions we are inviting views on.

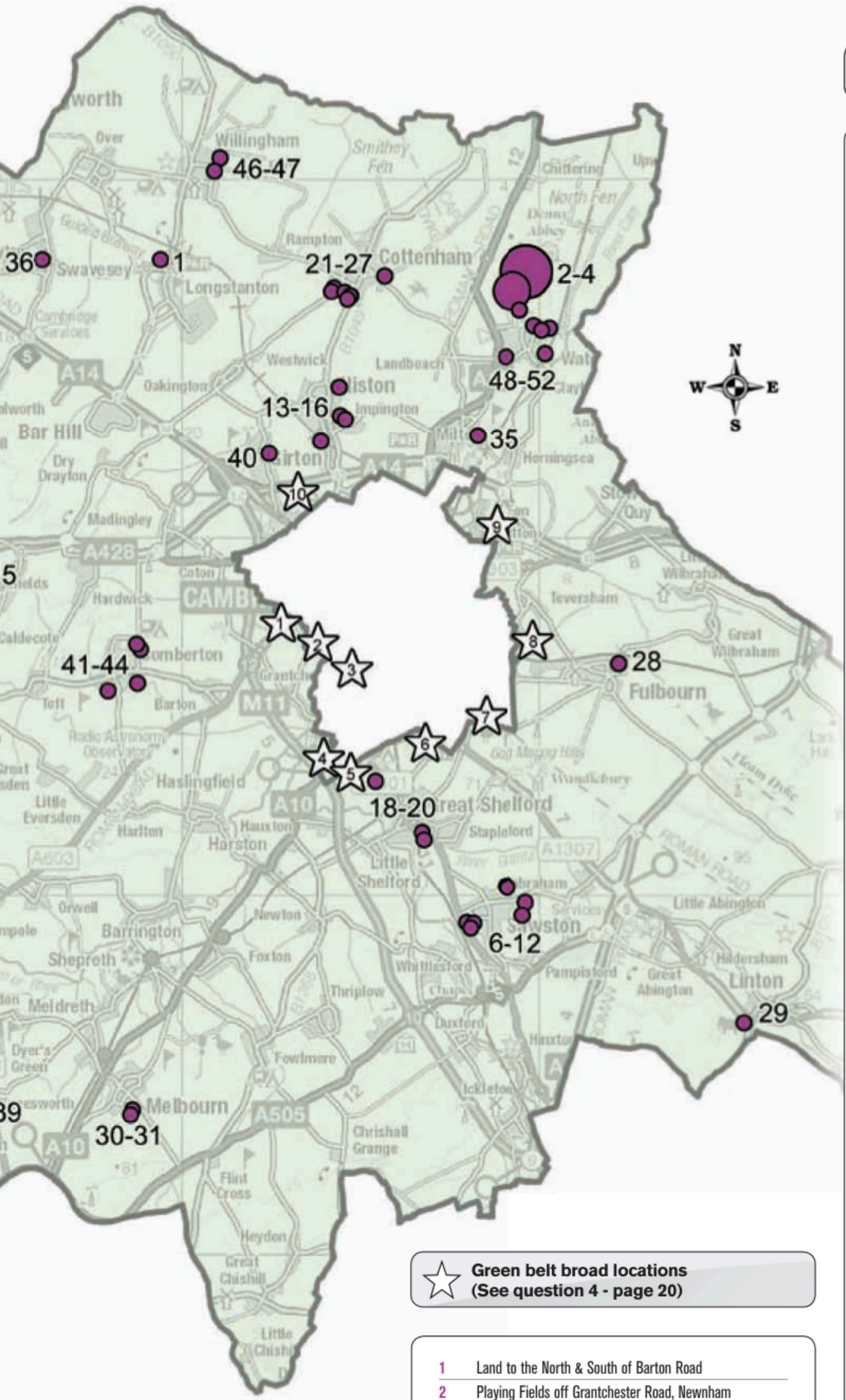
You can pick and choose which questions you want to respond to and both are available in paper copy and online. Please turn the page if you want to respond using a paper version of the shorter ten question form. All responses must be received by noon on Friday 28 September. You can also contact our planning policy team on (01954) 713183.

## Come and see us at a public event

In July and August we held consultation events in Sawston, Barton, Cambourne, Milton, Fulbourn, Bassingbourn and Waterbeach but there are still more chances to meet with planners to ask questions on any of the options suggested for the district, or in your local area.

**The following events will take place in September, all from 3pm to 8pm:**

- Monday 3 September at Longstanton Village Institute, High Street
- Tuesday 4 September at Gamlingay Village College, Station Road
- Wednesday 5 September at Great Shelford Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane
- Monday 10 September at All Saints Church Hall, High Street, Cottenham
- Tuesday 11 September at Fen Ditton Church Community Hall, High Street
- Wednesday 12 September at Linton Village College, Cambridge Road
- Friday 14 September at Histon & Impington Recreation Ground Centre, New Road




**Housing Site Options**
**(See question 6 - page 20)**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Land north west of B1050, Station Road, Longstanton (Northstowe Reserve) |
| 2 | New town at Waterbeach |
| 3 | Small new town at Waterbeach (MOD only) |
| 4 | Waterbeach Barracks (Built Area Only) |
| 5 | Bourn Airfield - New village |
| 6 | Land at Former Marley Tiles Site, Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston |
| 7 | Land at Grove Road / West Way, Dales Manor Business Park, Sawston |
| 8 | Land south of Babraham Road, Sawston |
| 9 | Land east of Sawston |
| 10 | Mill Lane, Sawston |
| 11 | Land Rear of 41 Mill Lane, Sawston |
| 12 | Land between 66 & 68 Common Lane, Sawston |
| 13 | Land at Buxhall Farm, Glebe Way, Histon |
| 14 | Land r/o 49-71 Impington Lane, Impington |
| 15 | Land north of Impington Lane, Impington |
| 16 | Land at SCA Packaging Ltd, Villa Road, Impington |
| 17 | Land west of Lower Cambourne and the Cambourne Business Park, bounded to the north by the A428 and to the west by the A1198 (Swansley Wood) |
| 18 | Land off Cambridge Road, Great Shelford |
| 19 | 29 - 35 and 32 London Road, Great Shelford |
| 20 | Granta Terrace, Stapleford |
| 21 | Land at the junction of Long Drove and Beach Road, Cottenham |
| 22 | Land at Oakington Road, Cottenham |
| 23 | The Redlands, Oakington Road, Cottenham |
| 24 | Land south of Ellis Close and East of Oakington Road, Cottenham |
| 25 | Land off Histon Road, Cottenham |
| 26 | Land to the rear of 34 - 46 Histon Road, Cottenham |
| 27 | Cottenham Sawmills, Cottenham |
| 28 | Land off Station Road, Fulbourn |
| 29 | Land east of Station Road, Linton |
| 30 | 36 New Road, Melbourn |
| 31 | Land to rear of Victoria Way, off New Road, Melbourn |
| 32 | Land off Grays Road, Gamlingay |
| 33 | Green End Industrial Estate, Green End, Gamlingay |
| 34 | Land at Mill Road, Gamlingay |
| 35 | The Former EDF Depot & Training Centre, Ely Road, Milton |
| 36 | Land south of Whitton Close & west of Boxworth End, Swavesey |
| 37 | Next to Walnut Tree Close, North End, Bassingbourn |
| 38 | Land north of Elbourn Way, Bassingbourn |
| 39 | Land between South End & Spring Lane, Bassingbourn |
| 40 | Land at Cockerton Road, Girton |
| 41 | Land off Long Road (south of Branch Road), Comberton |
| 42 | Land adj (north) to 69 Long Road, Comberton |
| 43 | Land to the east of Bush Close, Comberton |
| 44 | Land to the west of Birdlines, Manor Farm, Comberton |
| 45 | Papworth Hospital, Papworth Everard |
| 46 | Land east of 39-65 Rockmill End, Willingham |
| 47 | Land to the rear of Green Street, Willingham |
| 48 | Cody Road, Waterbeach |
| 49 | Land at Bannold Road and Bannold Drove, Waterbeach |
| 50 | North side of Bannold Road, Waterbeach |
| 51 | Land off Lode Avenue, Waterbeach |
| 52 | Land off Cambridge Road, Waterbeach |

**Green belt broad locations**
**(See question 4 - page 20)**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Land to the North & South of Barton Road |
| 2 | Playing Fields off Grantchester Road, Newnham |
| 3 | Land West of Trumpington Road |
| 4 | Land West of Hauxton Road |
| 5 | Land South of Addenbrooke's Road |
| 6 | Land South of Addenbrooke's Road between Babraham Road & Shelford Road |
| 7 | Land between Babraham Road & Fulbourn Road |
| 8 | Land East of Gazelle Way |
| 9 | Land at Fen Ditton |
| 10 | Land between Huntingdon Road & Histon Road |

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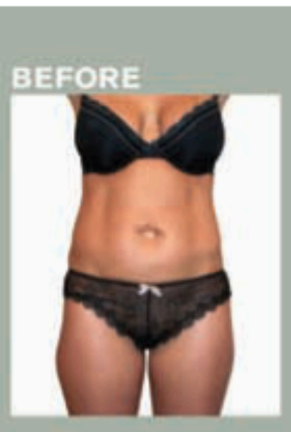


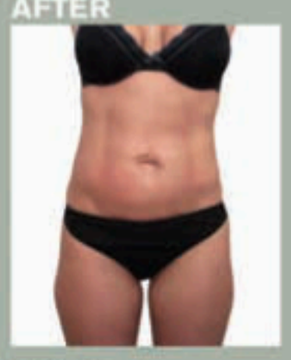


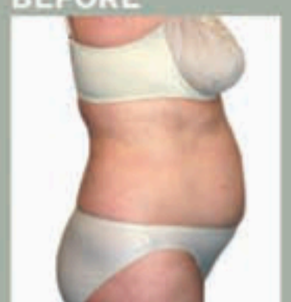


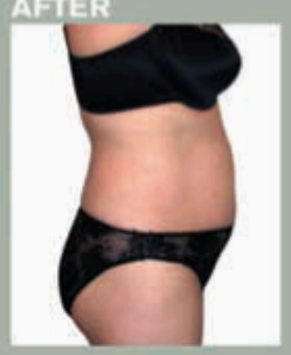


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# South Cambridgeshire Local Plan – Issues and Options

## Responses must be received by noon on Friday 28 September

(You can also give your comments online at www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan)

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email address:

### QUESTION 1 – JOBS

Our successful local economy has meant that, on average, around 1,600 new jobs have been created each year over the last 20 years. The average was around 1,000, even during the downturn. Forecasts show a growth of 1,200 more jobs per year is most likely over the next 20 years, but if the economy is worse or better than predicted it could be as few as 700, or as many as 1,500.

**What are your views on how many new jobs we should provide for? (You can also attach extra paper if needed for any of your answers)**

*Write here…*

### QUESTION 2 – HOMES

To accommodate our growing population, and to support new jobs, more homes will be needed. There are already 14,200 homes in the our current plans, including Northstowe and sites on the edge of Cambridge. If we planned for the most likely number of new jobs forecasted, we expect sites for an additional 7,300 homes will be needed. Planning for the lower number of jobs would suggest 4,300 homes will be needed and the higher number of new jobs would need 9,300.

**What are your views on how many additional new homes we should be planning for?**

*Write here…*

### QUESTION 3 – DEVELOPMENT FOCUS

Our existing plan has focused development on the edge of Cambridge and in Northstowe, a proposed new town near to Longstanton, with little development in villages. This is to give people a choice of living near to jobs and services which are concentrated in or close to Cambridge so they do not have to rely on their car for all their journeys. Some village development is expected to be needed to provide smaller housing sites in the next plan, but there are options for the main focus of future development:

**a)** On the edge of Cambridge (would require a review of the green belt)
**b)** Another new town/village
**c)** Larger villages (could require a review of the green belt)
**d)** Combination of the above

**Where do you think development should be focused?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 4 – GREEN BELT

Cambridge is surrounded by green belt land which stretches between three to five miles from the edge of the city and includes some of our larger villages. The boundaries around villages were last reviewed 20 years ago. To develop land in any of these areas another review would be needed. We are consulting on the merits of ten areas on the edge of Cambridge which can be viewed by visiting www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan (appendix 2). Note: these are not proposals for development. Depending on the results of consultation there may be a second consultation on specific site options in the winter.

**What are your views on releasing land from the green belt to allow more development around the edge of Cambridge or the larger villages, and do you have any comments on any of the ten broad locations?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 5 – VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

Development is currently allowed within villages, for new homes for sale. However, current policies mean sites in villages are becoming increasingly more difficult to find.

**Over the next 20 years do you feel the plan should allow greater flexibility so villages are able to extend and would you support more development in proportion to the scale of the village where you live?**

Village name

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 6 – WHERE SHOULD NEW HOUSING SITES BE LOCATED?

Following detailed assessments of nearly 300 locations we want your views on the 52 sites we believe could be the most suitable options for development. A list of the locations is below, the site numbers are listed on page 17, and for more detailed information on each site visit Chapter 5 of the issues and options report at www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan.

New town – Waterbeach Barracks and nearby land
New village – Bourn Airfield
Villages sites – Sawston, Histon & Impington, Cambourne, Great Shelford and Stapleford, Cottenham, Fulbourn, Linton, Melbourn, Gamlingay, Milton, Swavesey, Bassingbourn, Girton, Comberton, Papworth Everard, Willingham and Waterbeach.

**What are your views on the options suggested, and are there any other sites we should consider?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 7 – RURAL EXCEPTION SITES

We can grant planning permission for 'rural exception' schemes where housing association homes are built on the edge of villages to meet local needs for affordable housing. Reduced national funding means that if we are to continue to deliver new affordable houses for local people in this way, some houses for sale on the open market may have to be included in future schemes.

**How important is affordable housing, and where evidence shows that a rural exception scheme cannot be funded, should we consider the inclusion of some full market value homes in the scheme to subsidise the affordable homes?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 8 – LOCAL SERVICES

Residents need access to good quality services and facilities – from schools and doctors to shops and parks. We try to protect existing services as well as making sure they can be available when planning for new developments.

**What do you think we should do as part of the plan to make sure facilities are right for residents in the future?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 9 – QUALITY OF LIFE

We know that South Cambridgeshire is a special place to live and work, offering our residents a high quality of life. A number of factors contribute to this, from the unique character of our villages, local heritage and the countryside, to the number and variety of jobs available and the design of new homes. These examples will all play a role in maintaining our quality of life for future generations.

**What factors are important to you, and how do you think we should help maintain the high quality of life for ourselves and future generations?**

*Write here…*

## QUESTION 10 – FURTHER COMMENTS

For more detail on all the issues and options being explored as part of preparing the new Local Plan visit www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan. You can also give further comments below:

*Write here…*

**Please cut out, complete, and return to:** Jo Mills, Director of Planning and New Communities, South Cambridgeshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA

You can also respond by emailing LDF@scambs.gov.uk, by logging on to www.scambs.gov.uk/ldf/localplan, and our planning policy team can be contacted on 01954 713183

*If you want to be kept informed about future consultations please tick this box* [ ]

To ensure an open and transparent process, all representations – including details of respondents name and address – will be made available for public inspection. However, only the respondent's name will be shown against their submission when these are published on our website. By submitting a response you are agreeing to these conditions.

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**To help us keep council tax as low as possible we're calling on residents to make sure they are putting all their paper in the blue bin paper caddy.**

The renewed call for more paper follows a recent 9% dip in the amount we have been collecting in the caddy – which could have generated just over £100,000 of income to fund services.

Since the blue bin was launched in October 2010 it has been a huge success in reducing the amount of waste going to landfill, saving around half a million pounds. A large proportion of the savings are thanks to the paper from the caddy. As it is free from contamination it can be sold at a much higher price and recycled into better quality products. If paper makes its way into the main section of your blue bin it still cuts down on waste going to landfill, but as it is contaminated with other waste we can't bring in an income.

Cllr Sue Ellington, cabinet member for environmental services said: "We always strive to provide the best possible services to our residents at the lowest possible cost. By putting all your paper in the caddy, rather than it getting mixed up with other recycling in the main section of your blue bin, you can help play a big part in bringing money in, which in turn helps us make sure we keep council tax as low as possible for you. We are very grateful that dedicated residents have helped us to be one of the top performing areas in the country for recycling, but we need renewed support so we can see the amount of paper we are collecting soar once again."

The process of recycling does not stop once you put your paper in the caddy, and our collection crews have an important role to play. We realise that we do not always get it right and we must make sure that paper is always emptied into the paper compartment on the collection vehicle so it is not mixed with other blue bin material. If you see paper being emptied into the larger compartment on the collection vehicle please let us know so we can ensure that we play our important role too.

Most paper can be recycled in the caddy – turn to page 25 to see where all your waste should go.

**• BELOW Bin men put paper in the smaller compartment on the lorry. • INSET Paper from caddies is kept together at the recycling centre in Waterbeach**

**For more information about your blue bin and paper caddy, or to let us know about any collection problems, call 03450 450 063 or email bluebin@scambs.gov.uk**

# Collection dates

- **Bins must be out by 7am on your collection day**

Collection one day later | Green & blue bins | Black bin | Change to collection

## Monday

Babraham, Balsham, Gt Abington, Gt Shelford, Harston, Hauxton, Hildersham, Hinxton, Ickleton, Lt Abington, Lt Shelford, Pampisford, Stapleford

| 10 Sep | 17 Sep | 24 Sep | 1 Oct | 8 Oct | 15 Oct | 22 Oct | 29 Oct | 5 Nov | 12 Nov | 19 Nov | 26 Nov | 3 Dec | 10 Dec | 17 Dec | 24 Dec | 2 Jan | 08 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Wed | Tue |

Bartlow, Castle Camps, Horseheath, Linton, Sawston, Shudy Camps

| 10 Sep | 17 Sep | 24 Sep | 1 Oct | 8 Oct | 15 Oct | 22 Oct | 29 Oct | 5 Nov | 12 Nov | 19 Nov | 26 Nov | 3 Dec | 10 Dec | 17 Dec | 24 Dec | 2 Jan | 08 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Wed | Tue |

## Tuesday

Carlton, Coton, Gt Wilbraham, Histon, Horningsea, Impington, Lt Wilbraham, Madingley, Orchard Park, Six Mile Bottom, Teversham/ Cherry Hinton*, West Wickham, West Wratting, Weston Colville

| 11 Sep | 18 Sep | 25 Sep | 2 Oct | 9 Oct | 16 Oct | 23 Oct | 30 Oct | 6 Nov | 13 Nov | 20 Nov | 27 Nov | 4 Dec | 11 Dec | 18 Dec | 27 Dec | 3 Jan | 9 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Thu | Thu | Wed |

**Cherry Hinton: north of the railway as Teversham*

Fen Ditton, Fulbourn / Cherry Hinton*, Girton, Milton, Oakington, Stow-cum-Quy, Westwick

| 11 Sep | 18 Sep | 25 Sep | 2 Oct | 9 Oct | 16 Oct | 23 Oct | 30 Oct | 6 Nov | 13 Nov | 20 Nov | 27 Nov | 4 Dec | 11 Dec | 18 Dec | 27 Dec | 3 Jan | 9 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Thu | Thu | Wed |

**Cherry Hinton: south of the railway as Fulbourn*

## Wednesday

Bar Hill, Childerley, Chittering, Dry Drayton, Knapwell, Landbeach, Longstanton, Swavesey, Waterbeach

| 12 Sep | 19 Sep | 26 Sep | 3 Oct | 10 Oct | 17 Oct | 24 Oct | 31 Oct | 7 Nov | 14 Nov | 21 Nov | 28 Nov | 5 Dec | 12 Dec | 19 Dec | 28 Dec | 4 Jan | 10 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Fri | Fri | Thu |

Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Cottenham, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Lolworth, Over, Rampton, Willingham

| 12 Sep | 19 Sep | 26 Sep | 3 Oct | 10 Oct | 17 Oct | 24 Oct | 31 Oct | 7 Nov | 14 Nov | 21 Nov | 28 Nov | 5 Dec | 12 Dec | 19 Dec | 28 Dec | 4 Jan | 10 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Fri | Fri | Thu |

## Thursday

Cambourne, Comberton, Croxton, Eltisley, Graveley, Hardwick, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes, Toft

| 13 Sep | 20 Sep | 27 Sep | 4 Oct | 11 Oct | 18 Oct | 25 Oct | 1 Nov | 8 Nov | 15 Nov | 22 Nov | 29 Nov | 6 Dec | 13 Dec | 20 Dec | 29 Dec | 5 Jan | 11 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Sat | Sat | Fri |

Abington Pigotts, Arrington, Bassingbourn, Bourn, Croydon, Gamlingay, Guilden Morden, Hatley, Litlington, Longstowe, Lt Gransden, Shingay-cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden, Tadlow

| 13 Sep | 20 Sep | 27 Sep | 4 Oct | 11 Oct | 18 Oct | 25 Oct | 1 Nov | 8 Nov | 15 Nov | 22 Nov | 29 Nov | 6 Dec | 13 Dec | 20 Dec | 29 Dec | 5 Jan | 11 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Sat | Sat | Fri |

## Friday

Barton, Foxton, Grantchester, Gt Eversden, Harlton, Haslingfield, Kingston, Lt Eversden, Newton, Orwell, Shepreth, Thriplow & Heathfield, Whittlesford, Whaddon, Wimpole

| 14 Sep | 21 Sep | 28 Sep | 5 Oct | 12 Oct | 19 Oct | 26 Oct | 2 Nov | 9 Nov | 16 Nov | 23 Nov | 30 Nov | 7 Dec | 14 Dec | 21 Dec | 31 Dec | 7 Jan | 12 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mon | Mon | Sat |

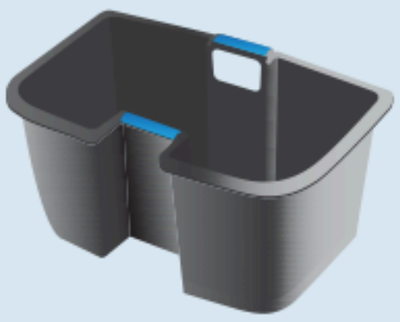
Barrington, Caldecote, Duxford, Fowlmere, Gt Chishill, Heydon, Lt Chishill, Melbourn, Meldreth

| 14 Sep | 21 Sep | 28 Sep | 5 Oct | 12 Oct | 19 Oct | 26 Oct | 2 Nov | 9 Nov | 16 Nov | 23 Nov | 30 Nov | 7 Dec | 14 Dec | 21 Dec | 31 Dec | 7 Jan | 12 Jan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Mon | Mon | Sat |

# What goes where?

- **Bins must be out by 7am on your collection day**
- **Close lids firmly**

## Paper only caddy



Paper

Newspapers & magazines

Telephone directories

Catalogues

Envelopes (with or without windows)

Shredded paper*

Junk mail

Jiffy bags, wrapping paper, greeting cards, tissue, cardboard & kitchen paper

* Put shredded paper in an old envelope before placing in the paper only caddy

- Place the caddy inside your blue bin
- Excess blue bin material will be collected if placed alongside the blue bin in a returnable container
- Put items loosely in the blue bin and not in carrier bags
- Rinse items to remove any food contamination

## Blue bin

Plastic bottles

Plastic bottle tops & triggers

Plastic packaging (pots, trays & tubs)

Plastic bags

Plastic film & clean food wrapping

Glass jars & bottles

Food & drinks cans

Aerosols

Tin foil & foil trays

Cartons (e.g Tetrapak)

Cardboard

Polystyrene
Pyrex, flat glass, non packaging plastic e.g toys, bowls

## Battery bag

Batteries inc. AA & AAA cells, button batteries, size C & D and any laptop & mobile battery

Lead acid batteries e.g. vehicle batteries

## Green bin

Garden waste

Cooked/uncooked food waste (meat, fish & dairy)

Kitchen paper and tissues

Any type of cat litter
Cartons (e.g. Tetrapak) - put in blue bin
Turf and soil - due to its weight
Any type of plastic inc bags/sacks

Biodegradable bags (cornstarch, potato starch)
Corrugated cardboard - put in the blue bin
Cardboard - put in the blue bin

- Excess green bin material cannot be collected. Please compost it or take it to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centre

## Black bin

### Non-recyclable / non-compostable material

- Please use your black bin for material that cannot be put in green or blue bins
- Excess black bin material cannot be collected. Please take it to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centres
- Nappies should be put in the black bin
- Empty and full paint tins cannot be collected. Please take them to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centres

**For more information visit www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling or call 03450 450 063**

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Email: **Deena@kingstreeths.org.uk**

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# Andrew Lansley backs broadband campaign

**South Cambridgeshire MP, Andrew Lansley, paid local company Method Creative a visit in July to bolster efforts in our bid to bring superfast broadband to the district.**

Method Creative is a growing creative agency with a portfolio of diverse international clients. A recent office relocation to Cottenham has allowed the company to expand, with the addition of three new staff and some exciting projects in the pipeline.

"While it's hugely exciting to be growing at such a rate, we need the right technology to support this phase in our development to effectively compete with London as a regional agency", says company founder Kirsten Corrigan. "Decent broadband is a pre-requisite for a creative agency that needs to work with, and transfer, large image files every day."

Supporting the Connecting Cambridgeshire campaign as a Digital Champion is a particularly relevant step for Kirsten, who also lives in the village and has access to better broadband from her home than she has at the office.

"The irony is that if I pop home during the day I can upload files much more quickly to client servers and that really isn't conducive to running a slick operation! We really hope the campaign moves forward, so our business can continue to thrive", added Kirsten.

Residents and businesses in South Cambridgeshire are already leading the charge to bring superfast broadband to the area, with around 4,800 registering their demand.

Andrew Lansley said: "This is excellent news for South Cambridgeshire and shows how strongly people feel about bringing high speed broadband access to the area.

● **ABOVE** **Andrew Lansley MP with Kirsten Corrigan of Method Creative and District Councillor Nick Wright.**

"Telecoms providers generally offer good broadband coverage in urban and commercial areas, but this does not reach enough rural areas in the county, which is why I would urge everyone in Cambridgeshire to register to show where there is high demand for better broadband so we can attract investment from suppliers."

Latest figures show that over 12,500 people have already registered across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, but more are needed.

Nick Wright, portfolio holder for economic development, said: "Broadband is one of our top priorities as it is a burning issue for our residents and businesses. We already have a strong economy, but better broadband will help the area go from strength to strength and we need everyone to log on and register their support."

**It only takes a minute to register and it doesn't commit you to anything**
**Register at: www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk**
**For more information contact Nicole Kritzinger on 03450 450 500**

# Seeking international investment

● **ABOVE IWM Duxford offers state of the art conferencing facilities in a unique historic atmosphere. For further information go to www.iwm.org.uk**

**We've begun a new drive to increase spending on tourism goods and services by businesses who are visiting the area.**

Tourism is a large and growing industry in Cambridge and the surrounding area of South Cambridgeshire, and we want to once again step up the support given to existing employment in the sector, as well as increase the number of long term private sector jobs.

We've launched a project with Cambridge City Council and its tourism arm, Visit Cambridge, in a bid to unlock extra funding to invest further in promoting what the district and Cambridge has to offer to people further afield. This could even see us attract more business tourists from overseas.

National polls consistently recognise South Cambridgeshire as one of the top places to live, work and study in the country, and by attracting more business people to the district we also hope to boost leisure tourism with these people making return visits in their own time.

Competition for businesses to visit an area, for a conference or exhibition for example, is fierce. But with investment from the Regional Growth Fund, a government pot of money that supports projects seeking to increase private sector investment and create economic growth and employment, we can build on the success our area already enjoys.

**For more information about the bid, and other plans to boost the economy contact Nicole Kritzinger on 03450 450 500 or nicole.kritzinger@scambs.gov.uk**

# Planning business for all

**We know that planning can seem very complicated, but in a bid to help local businesses we've launched a new guide to make it easier for them to get to grips with the system.**

The new step-by-step booklet guides businesses through planning regulations, and is one of many initiatives we are working on to promote growth and create new jobs in the district.

We created the guide based on the most frequently asked questions from businesses – ranging from the process of making a planning application and carrying out alterations, to what is needed if they want to change the use of a business premises.

Copies of the guide are available by contacting our duty planning officer – a dedicated first point of contact to help make sure we deal with planning enquiries quickly. The guide can also be downloaded from our website (link below).

Cllr Nick Wright, cabinet member for planning and economic development, said: "South Cambridgeshire is very much open for business and by making it is as easy as possible for companies to thrive here, we aim to help create new jobs for our residents. We are aware planning laws can seem complex, but the guide we have put together answers the most frequently asked questions and explains in simple language everything a large or small business may need to know."

**If you have a planning enquiry, contact our duty planning officer on 01954 713155**
**www.scambs.gov.uk/PlanningServicesGuideforBusinesses**

# Free workshops and funding for firms

**We've got lots of good news for local businesses - extra funding is being pumped into offering them support and we're launching a series of free practical workshops.**

Our support fund was set up two years ago to offer eligible businesses up to £1,000 towards the cost of training and other business support. Due to the success of the scheme – which has already helped 70 local firms – we've committed a further £20,000 to support more companies and even help them grow to create more new jobs.

To be eligible, businesses must be based in the district, qualify as an SME (small or medium sized enterprise) and be able to show that they have suffered financial hardship as a result of the recession.

Exemplas – the company we have appointed to manage the business fund – will give eligible firms a 'health check' and work with them to create an action plan. Grants will then be awarded to help businesses source the specific support they need.

On top of funding, we are offering a series of 16 workshops across the district to give practical advice on a range of topics to help firms – including marketing, practical selling skills, website development and effective use of search engines. The workshops begin in September and will run through until March. At the time South Cambs Magazine went to print the workshops were being confirmed – businesses can go online to find out more about each session and to book their free places. We expect the sessions to be popular so book early to avoid disappointment.

● **ABOVE Workshops bookings are now being taken**

Cllr Nick Wright, cabinet member for economic development, said: "The downturn has hit firms hard across the entire country, and although this area has weathered the storm better than most we know our business community still needs extra specific support. Supporting the local economy so our local businesses can be successful is one of our top priorities and in all the work we do we are trying to take a very business-friendly approach. We are very aware that other organisations, such as Business Link, no longer offer services to support firms. Local initiatives such as the practical workshops we are stepping in to launch should help fill the gap."

Details of all our business workshops can be found by visiting www.exemplas.com/southcambs or www.cambridge-plus.com – a website set up by us to help support existing businesses in South Cambridgeshire and promote the area to encourage new firms to set up here.

**To book places on the business workshops, or to find out more about the financial help available through the business support fund, contact Exemplas on 0844 346 0755 or email Southcambsbusinesssupport@examplas.com**

# Autumn term courses
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Adult Education

## Enrolment Evening

**Come along and find out more about our course on**
**Monday 3rd September**
**5.30-8pm**

## Languages

| New courses are shown in bold<br>Course | Day | Time pm (unless otherwise stated) | Start date | No. of weeks | Tuition fee (£) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Evening** | | | | | |
| Arabic absolute beginners level 1 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Arabic beginners level 2 | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Chinese absolute beginners level 1 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| Chinese beginners level 2 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 11 | 115 |
| Chinese improvers | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Chinese intermediates | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Chinese advanced | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 120 |
| French absolute beginners level 1 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| French beginners level 2 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| French improvers | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| French higher intermediates/advanced | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| French advanced conversation | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| German absolute beginners level 1 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| German beginners level 2 | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| German beginners level 3 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| German improvers | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| German intermediates | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| Greek (modern) absolute beginners level 1 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Greek (modern) beginners level 3 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Greek (modern) intermediates | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Italian absolute beginners level 1 | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Italian beginners level 2 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Italian beginners level 3 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Italian intermediates | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Italian higher intermediates | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Japanese absolute beginners level 1 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| Japanese improvers | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 120 |
| Japanese intermediates | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 140 |
| **Latin intermeidates/advanced** | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 120 |
| Polish absolute beginners level 1 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Portuguese absolute beginners level 1 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Portuguese beginners level 3 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Portuguese intermediates | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Russian absolute beginners level 1 | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Russian improvers | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Russian intermediate/advanced | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 115 |
| Spanish absolute beginners level 1 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Spanish beginners level 2 | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Spanish beginners level 3 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 105 |
| Spanish improvers | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| Spanish intermediates/IGCSE | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 30 | 315* |
| Spanish AS level | Thurs | 6.30-9.00 | 20 Sept | 30 | 440* |
| Spanish A2 level | Wed | 6.30-9.00 | 19 Sept | 30 | 460* |
| Spanish advanced conversation | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| Turkish absolute beginners level 1 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 110 |
| Turkish intermediates | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 115 |

* Tuition fee excludes examination costs

**Tuition fees for language courses vary at different levels to reflect group sizes**

## English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| EFL - pre-intermediate | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110* |
| EFL - intermediate | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110* |
| EFL - upper intermediate | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110* |
| EFL - advanced | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110* |
| **English for business and job applications** | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| IELTS Preparation course | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 11 | 110 |

*An additional £5 online placement test fee applies to this course.

## Business & Professional Training

| New courses are shown in bold<br>Course | Day | Time pm (unless otherwise stated) | Start date | No. of weeks | Tuition fee (£) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Book-keeping: SAGE 50 accounts-beginners | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 8 | 125 |
| Design & build you own website-beginners (Dreamweaver CS5) | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 150 |
| Proof reading & copy editing | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 6 | 65 |
| Success at interview | Sat | 10am-1.00 | 20 Oct | 1 | 25* |
| Use of Microsoft Excel 2010 & file management -beginners | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 5 | 60 |
| Use of Excel Excel 2010-improvers | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 7 Nov | 5 | 60 |

*An additional £5 material fee applies to this workshop.

## Professional Counselling

| New courses are shown in bold<br>Daytime | Day | Time pm (unless otherwise stated) | Start date | No. of weeks | Tuition fee (£) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AQA Level 3 Certificate in Counselling (mandatory unit) | Wed | 9.30am-1.00 | 19 Sep | 20+2+1 half-day | 825* |
| AQA Level 3 Certificate in Counselling (option unit: Psychdynamic Theory) | Wed | 9.30am-1.00 | 20 Mar 2013 | 12+2+1 half-day | 525* |
| **Evening** | | | | | |
| Introduction to Counselling skills | Mon | 6.15-8.45 | 17 Sept | 8 | 115 |
| AQA Level 2 Certificate in Counselling skills | Tues | 6.15-9.00 | 18 Sept | 28+2+1 half-day | 725* |
| AQA Level 3 Certificate in Counselling (mandatory unit) | Wed | 6.00-9.30 | 19 Sept | 20+2+1 half-day | 825* |

*Tuition fee **excludes** examination registration costs - please check individual course details on our website

## GCSEs/AS/A2 levels

| New courses are shown in bold<br>Course | Day | Time pm (unless otherwise stated) | Start date | No. of weeks | Tuition fee (£) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Art & Design AS/A2 level | Mon | 6.30-9.00 | 17 Seot | 30 | 470 |
| English IGCSE | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 30 | 315 |
| Maths GCSE | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 30 | 315 |
| Psychology AS level | Tues | 6.30-9.00 | 18 Sept | 30 | 440 |
| Spanish intermediate/IGCSE | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 30 | 315 |
| Spanish AS level | Thurs | 6.30-9.00 | 20 Sept | 30 | 440 |
| Spanish A2 level | Wed | 6.30-9.00 | 19 Sept | 30 | 460 |

Tuition fee excludes examination costs

## Art and Design

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Art & Design AS/A2 level | Mon | 6.30-9.00 | 17 Sept | 30 | 470† |
| Art History | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Ceramics | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| Ceramics | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| Ceramics | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| Creative textiles | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 99*** |
| Drawing, the basics | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Drawing, the next step | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Illustration for picture books | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Interior design | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| Interior design-the next step | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| **Jewellery making-beginners** | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99†† |
| Life drawing | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 10 | 99** |
| Painting for beginners | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Painting without boundaries | Fri | 6.30-9.00 | 21 Sept | 8 | 99 |
| Painting oils & acrylics | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Painting oils & acrylics | Fri | 6.30-8.30 | 21 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Photography digital-beginners | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Photography digital-beginners | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Photography digital-the next step | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Photography advanced | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99* |
| Photoshop CS5 (Adobe)-beginners | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Photoshop CS5 (Adobe)-advanced | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Portraiture | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 10 | 99** |
| Watercolour painting | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 10 | 99 |

*An additional £16 material fee applies to this course. **An additional £21 model fee applies to this course.***An additional £21 material fee applies to this course. **†Tuition fee excludes examination costs. ††An additional £46 material fee applies to this course.**

## Recreational

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dance** | | | | | |
| Strictly ballroom dancing | Mon | 7.30-9.00 | 17 Sept | 11 | 85* |
| Latin American dancing | Thurs | 6.30-8.00 | 20 Sept | 11 | 85* |
| **Health & Well-being** | | | | | |
| Indian head, neck & shoulder massage-begs | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 8 | 80 |
| **Nutrition uncovered-part 1** | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 6 | 65 |
| **Nutrition uncovered-part 2** | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 6 Nov | 6 | 65 |
| Physical Theatre | Wed | 7.15-9.15 | 3 Oct | 7 | 70 |
| Pilates - beginners | Fri | 5.00-6.00 | 21 Sept | 11 | 65 |
| Pilates - intermediates | Fri | 6.00-7.00 | 21 Sept | 11 | 65 |
| **T'ai Chi 1** | Wed | 6.30-8.00 | 19 Sept | 6 | 45 |
| **T'ai Chi 2** | Wed | 6.30-8.00 | 7 Nov | 5 | 40 |
| Yoga Hatha - mixed ability | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 8 | 76 |
| **Writing & Media** | | | | | |
| Creative writing-introduction | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 10 | 99 |
| Continuing creative writing | Wed | 7.00-9.00 | 19 Sept | 11 | 110 |
| **Insight into film 1** | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 5 | 50 |
| **Insight into film 2** | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 8 Nov | 5 | 50 |
| Proof reading & copy editing | Thurs | 7.00-9.00 | 20 Sept | 6 | 65 |
| **Other** | | | | | |
| Music Technology: part 1 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 17 Sept | 5 | 65 |
| Music Technology: part 2 | Mon | 7.00-9.00 | 5 Nov | 5 | 65 |
| Singing for fun | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 6 | 60† |
| Singing for fun | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 6 Nov | 5 | 50† |
| Wine appreciation | Tues | 7.00-9.00 | 18 Sept | 11 | 110†† |

* An additional £10 demonstration fee applies to this course. †An additional fee applies to this course for the purchase of sheet music (no more than £15) ††Additional costs apply to this course according to the wines tasted.

## Saturday Schools & Workshops

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Saturday 29th September** | | | | | |
| Creative textiles | Sat | 10am-4.00 | 29 Sept | 1 | 50† |
| **Saturday 6th October** | | | | | |
| Bicycle maintenance for beginners | Sat | 10am-2.00 | 6 Oct | 1 | 30* |
| Colour, style & make-up | Sat | 10am-3.30 | 6 Oct | 1 | 40*** |
| **DJ ing-a beginners guide** | Sat | 10am-4.00 | 6 Oct | 1 | 50 |
| Floristry-getting started | Sat | 10am-3.30 | 6 Oct | 1 | 40*** |
| Indian head massage-facial moves | Sat | 10am-2.00 | 6 Oct | 1 | 30 |
| Perfume blending & making natural cosmetics | Sat | 10am-12.00 | 6 Oct | 1 | 20** |
| **Tracing your family roots: an introduction** | Sat | 10am-1.00 | 6 Oct | 1 | 25 |
| **Saturday 20th October** | | | | | |
| Book-keeping using SAGE 50 accounts:part 1 | Sat | 10am-4.00 | 20 Oct | 1 | 50 |
| **Success at Interview** | Sat | 10am-1.00 | 20 Oct | 1 | 25** |
| **Saturday 17th November** | | | | | |
| Book-keeping using SAGE 50 accounts: part 2 | Sat | 10am-4.00 | 17 Nov | 1 | 50 |
| Clothes, accessories & image impact | Sat | 10am-1.00 | 17 Nov | 1 | 25** |
| Cooking-sushi making session†† | Sat | 10am-2.00 | 17 Nov | 1 | 90 |
| Flower arranging - flowers for gifts | Sat | 10am-3.30 | 17 Nov | 1 | 40*** |
| **Tracing your family roots:next step** | Sat | 10am-1.00 | 17 Nov | 1 | 25 |
| **Saturday 24th November** | | | | | |
| Cooking: easy entertainment†† | Sat | 10am-4.00 | 24 Nov | 1 | 90 |
| **Saturday 8th December** | | | | | |
| Flower arranging-Christmas designs | Sat | 10am-3.30 | 8 Dec | 1 | 40*** |

***An additional £2 material fee applies to this workshop. **An additional £5 material fee applies to this workshop ***An additional £8 material fee applies to this course. †An additional £10 material fee applies to this workshop**

†† These workshops are provided at the Cambridge Cookery School, Purbeck Road, off Hills Road

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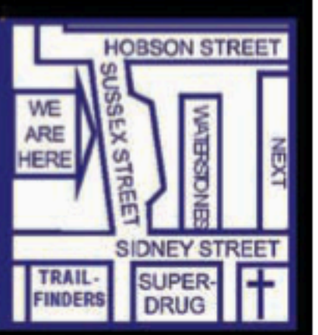


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# Youth councillors take up posts

**Nominations for our first Youth Council have now closed with 17 young people stepping forward. There is no need for an election; everyone who put themselves forward will be part of the Youth Council.**

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everybody who volunteered to be a youth councillor and to those people who nominated somebody else to take part. We are pleased to have a good spread of people aged between 13 and 18 from across the district. Now comes the exciting part as we bring our new youth councillors together to get down to some real Council business. The youth councillors will get together in September for a training day where they will begin to decide how they want to work with councillors on the adult council to make sure young people have a say and influence the decisions that affect them most.

With the proposed new town of Northstowe and new developments planned on the edge of Cambridge all coming forward, there's lots of important work ahead to make sure that these new places have homes, facilities and services of the highest quality that are right for residents of all ages. There's also all the really important work around energy and climate change, waste and recycling and heritage and conservation. We'd also like our youth councillors to help us with our new website and customer contact centre to make sure we get these right too. Once the youth councillors have decided on the issues they want to tackle first, they will meet senior councillors to discuss how they can work with them to put across the opinions of young people from across the district.

Although the closing date for becoming a youth councillor has now passed there will still be plenty of other opportunities for more young people to get involved. If you would like to help the Youth Council by giving them your views, or want to raise a local concern, please get in touch.

Watch this space in the next edition of South Cambs Magazine as we introduce your new youth councillors, explain exactly what they will be working on and how you can get in touch with them directly.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for the Youth Council, or you would like to be involved in giving them your opinions, please let us know. You can contact Tracy Mann, our officer supporting the Youth Council, on 01954 713342 or tracy.mann@scambs.gov.uk.

**Find more online at:**
**www.scambs.gov.uk/youngpeople or by logging on to the Youth Council's facebook page at www.facebook.com/SCYouthCouncil**
**Remember to click 'like' when you visit the page**

# Welcome

…Gold medal performance at London 2012.

**Cllr James Hockney, SCDC Champion for the Olympics writes:**

WITH THE OLYMPICS OVER and the Paralympics underway, I am so proud of what we have achieved leading up to the Games and I am confident that local sport is in good shape for the future.

From our Elite Athlete Award scheme to the growing network of village walking and running groups and our continued support for disability sports, we're serious about inspiring and motivating residents to get active. Our netball scheme is just one example of our success.

Record-breaking crowds at Park Life enjoyed a range of new activities and I was delighted to see the Paralympic Torch visit Milton Country Park. Congratulations also to Angela Taylor for representing our district as part of the Olympic Torch relay.

The end of the Olympics is not an end to our efforts to boost sport in South Cambridgeshire. Keep an eye on our sports pages in future editions and visit www.scambs.gov.uk/leisureandculture for inspiration and information.

**Details of all events can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/London2012**

# Shining moment

**Just 8,000 people were lucky enough to carry the Olympic flame during the Olympic Torch relay, and one of them was from South Cambridgeshire.**

Angela Taylor from Haslingfield carried the flame as it left Cambridge. She and her torch also went to assemblies at five local primary schools and were special guests at Haslingfield Primary's Olympic musical evening.

Angela also visited sheltered housing schemes for older people and people with learning disabilities; ending her week at Addenbrooke's paediatric oncology ward, bringing a smile to many of the children and their parents.

"I wanted to share the experience with as many people as possible." says Angela "I explained that the three sides of the torch represented the Olympic motto of faster, higher, stronger, the Olympic values of respect, excellence and friendship and the vision of the London 2012 Olympic Games to combine sport, education and culture."

"It was a fantastic experience to run with the flame and see so many people make the effort to come out early on a rainy Sunday morning. It was a moving experience to meet my fellow torch bearers and to hear their incredible stories and achievements. I feel very privileged to have been part of it."

● Angela Taylor carries the flame

# On their marks

An Olympic-inspired sports camp saw children put new found athletics skills to the test this summer. The 7 to 15 year olds spent the day with qualified athletics coaches, including Bryn Percival - one of Cambridgeshire's Olympic torch bearers.

After warming up with an Olympic dance, the youngsters had a go at long jump, sprinting, middle distance running and shot putt, before putting their new skills into practice in a mini Olympic competition.

The day ended with medals, certificates and souvenirs plus a special athletes handbook to help young people learn more about athletics and develop their skills.

Our athletics camps run during the summer holidays, October half term and at Easter. For more information about future camps or Community Athletics Clubs, contact Helen Stepney on 03450 450 500 or email helen.stepney@scambs.gov.uk

● Almost 50 young people took part in the athletics camp

● Star attractions: Wenlock and Mandeville.

# Summer fun as record crowds hit Park Life

Record crowds gathered at Milton Country Park in July as South Cambridgeshire residents got into the swing of sport, music, art and entertainment to begin their Olympic celebrations.

Over 4,000 people went through the gates on the day - an increase of over 1,000 on previous years - with official London 2012 mascots, Wenlock and Mandeville, the star attractions.

The sun shone to help the family fun-filled day go with a bang with activities ranging from fishing, kayaking, sailing, canoeing, waterwalking and paddleboarding, to disc golf, trampolining, climbing, archery, fencing and orienteering.

There was also an inflatable assault course and dedicated sports zone with special Olympic challenges and family races, a music stage with street poetry and comedy acts, an arts area with workshops in puppet making, music, and circus skills and 'the wild place' where families had a go at outdoor cooking, fire lighting and den building.

The free event was organised by us in partnership with Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust.

# Netball scores

Women across the district are bounce-passing their way back to fitness thanks to our successful Women Try Netball scheme.

The scheme has been extended to even more villages, including Whittlesford, Fulbourn and Longstanton, with teams being formed to take part in the South Cambridgeshire mid-week adult friendly league, starting in October.

Women Try Netball was set up to address the under-representation of women in sport. The game champions the social and physical benefits of sport as well as enhancing mental wellbeing, and as most women have played netball at school, it's a sport they're familiar with.

We're setting up more taster sessions for women aged 16 or over across the district, helping residents create new opportunities to get active, make new friends and have fun.

If your village would like to run taster sessions please get in touch. We'll help you to find a venue and provide qualified coaches, equipment and posters to put up around the local area.

● Women in Whittlesford enjoy getting back into netball

**To find out where your nearest Women Try Netball sessions are, or to talk about setting a session up in your area, contact Helen Stepney on 03450 450 500 or email helen.stepney@scambs.gov.uk**

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# South Cambs Aging Well - 'You said, we did'

We're asking older people living in South Cambridgeshire to tell us about what's important to you.

Come along to our second annual workshop and hear about what we've been doing, and tell us what you else would like to see in your area.

**Tuesday 23 October**
**12.15 to 4pm (starting with lunch)**
**At South Cambs Hall,**
**Cambourne Business Park**
**Cambourne.**

**Places are limited, please book through Jane Cusworth**
**phone (01954) 713151 or**
**email: jane.cusworth@scambs.gov.uk**

# Ageing well – spotlight on dementia

**Agencies across the county are working together to help older residents maintain independence for as long as possible in their own homes and communities.**

Recognising how important it is to promote positive health and wellbeing as prevention is better than cure, we are working closely with local partners to improve support services for residents. This comes at a critical time when we are all experiencing significant reductions in government funding, but at the same time more people are living for longer.

By working more closely together, Cambridgeshire councils, voluntary organisations and the NHS can ensure that individuals are put at the heart of all our services to make sure they get the best care possible and prevent long hospital stays – which are costly to taxpayers, but more importantly are something older people want to avoid.

Below is the story of one local resident - who we will call Janet (not her real name) - who avoided residential care thanks to a coordinated approach to home support.

Janet suffers with dementia. She was admitted to hospital having fallen at home and injuring her head. There were concerns about her safety if she returned to her property, where she would be alone for long periods and throughout the night. Janet, however, expressed a wish to return home and her family were keen to support this as residential care was the likely alternative.

She was discharged with a care package that included telecare sensor technology, which raises an alert if she was inactive. This has enabled Janet to enjoy the freedom of living at home without the need for residential care. Her family was put in touch with Care Network, who through the Good Neighbour Scheme, arranged for a volunteer to visit her on a regular basis. The volunteer keeps an eye on the house and has even arranged for a volunteer gardener to keep the grounds tidy.

**ABOVE Cllr Sue Ellington, vice chairman of Cambridgeshire's Health and Well-being board talks to Steve Hampson, Age UK's partner relations area head, at the launch of the Aging Well partnership last year**

Keen to try to find some more social contact for Janet, her family learned about the adult social care website 'Your Life, Your Choice' and discovered that Age UK Cambridgeshire has a home visiting service. Through this they arranged for a second volunteer to visit fortnightly. Age UK also recommended a visit from the Dementia Advisor at the Alzheimer's Society, who is now seeking additional support for Janet as well as arranging occasional days out.

Together, the volunteers, care package and telecare equipment have reduced the family's anxiety, greatly improved Janet's quality of life, increased her confidence, and enabled her to continue living at home.

**For information on pendant alarms please contact South Cambridgeshire District Council on 03450 450 051 or www.scambs.gov.uk/lifeline**
**For telecare technology contact Cambridgeshire Community Services on 01223 883756**
**For care packages and "Your Life, Your Choice" contact Cambridgeshire County Council on 03450 455 202 or www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk**
**For the "Good Neighbour Scheme" and "Welcome Home from Hospital" contact Care Network on 01954 211919 or www.care-network.org.uk**
**For information on the Home Visiting Service contact Age UK on 0845 5213 481**

# Avoid rogue traders and buy with confidence

Cambridgeshire County Council
How do you make sure you are not ripped off by scams or cowboys?
BUY WITH CONFIDENCE
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www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**Residents and businesses can avoid cowboys and rogue traders thanks to a new Buy with Confidence scheme launched by the County Council's Trading Standards service.**

Serving South Cambridgeshire, the scheme will provide residents with a list of local Trading Standards approved businesses that have undergone rigorous checks and given their commitment to provide a quality service. Searches are carried out to make sure they are adequately licensed and insured and their complaints history is reviewed. Proof that staff entering people's homes have been CRB checked is also required. The list of traders is available online, by telephone and from libraries.

The scheme will also help resolve any disputes that occur, protecting businesses from malicious or unfair complaints over the quality and cost of goods and services.

Initially the scheme will focus on home improvement businesses, but it will be rolled out to include other markets in coming months.

It is important to remember that the businesses listed under the scheme vary in size, expertise, and cost. To make sure the business you have chosen will best match your expectations, it is important to get several quotes and to ask questions before going ahead.

**To see the approved list of traders, or to register your interest in joining the scheme as an approved business, visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call the trading standards business advice line on 03450 455 206**

# Keeping it cool for school

**For many parents, their child starting school brings with it the horror that is the packed lunch.**

Seasoned sarnie makers will agree that thinking up delicious and healthy snacks that look appetising, taste good and remain safe to eat when kept unrefrigerated for extended periods of time can be very difficult. The nature of the lunchbox makes it near impossible to keep food properly refrigerated, giving bacteria a chance to grow and multiply, increasing the risk of illness.

With that in mind, we have put together a list of dos and don'ts. So whether you're a new parent on the lunchbox block, or a veteran finder of week-old sarnies festering at the bottom of the schoolbag, help is at hand.

- Wash hands before preparing food
- Make sandwiches the night before and keep them refrigerated so they are cold when you pack the lunchbox
- Include an ice pack (or frozen juice carton) to keep the temperature down
- Use an insulated lunchbox as this keeps the cold in as well as the heat out
- Keep the lunchbox in a cool room, out of the sun
- If you can't keep the lunchbox cool, use foods that bacteria don't like such as peanut butter, marmite and banana
- Don't return half eaten food to the lunchbox
- A full lunchbox stays colder for longer so fill empty spaces
- Clean the lunchbox daily and allow it to dry before storing.

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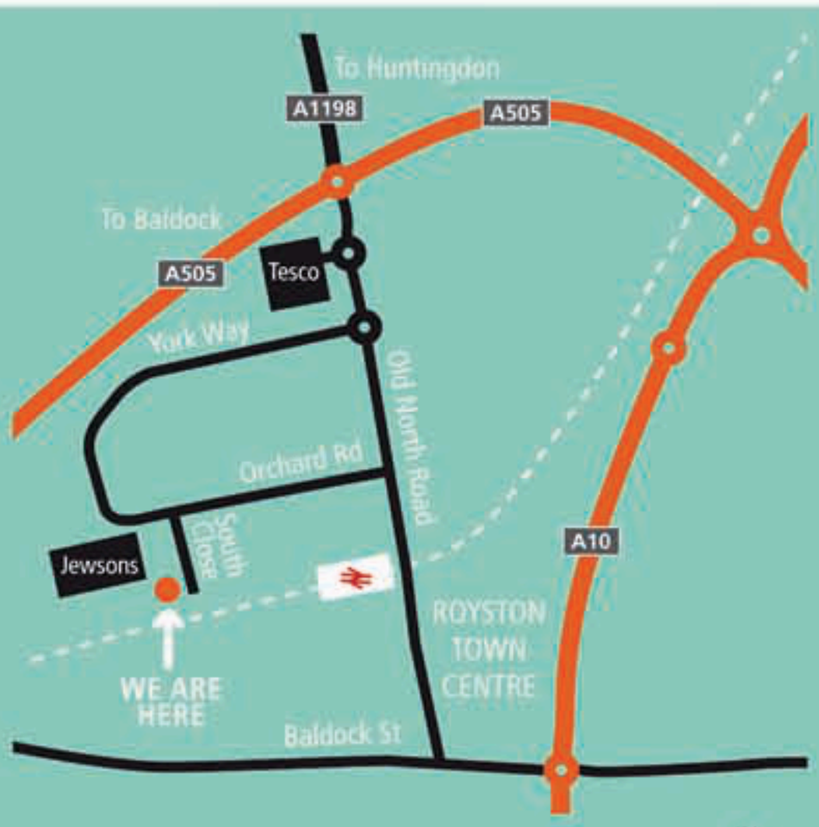


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# Turning the heat up on a cool place

**To combat rising domestic fuel bills we have been carrying out a pilot project to stop heat escaping from some of our least energy efficient council homes.**

We know 'leaky' properties increase the impact of the rising costs of fuel, and the homes we have been working on mainly have solid walls which are especially hard to heat. Tenant surveys have also shown us that people who have an oil-fired boiler, as they do not have access to mains gas, are finding it difficult to afford higher fuel bills. Many of those surveyed reported that they hadn't been able to afford to buy oil, which in some cases led to severe condensation, causing internal damage to our homes and tenants' personal belongings, and posing a hazard to health and well-being.

During the trial on solid wall homes a lightweight insulated board was fixed to the exterior of properties, and then a render applied. This helps trap heat in properties and can also be used on homes that have plastic or timber cladding. Feedback from tenants has been excellent, with many reporting that it has made a substantial difference to their lives by making their home warmer and cheaper to run.

With positive results of the trial behind us, we are planning to apply the insulation to other homes. A new project officer will join our team to help make that happen over the next three years, after some extra EU funding was secured following a joint bid with Cambridgeshire County Council. As the programme begins we will contact tenants whose homes are suitable for the work.

**To find out more information about external cladding, and our plans, contact Duncan Vessey on 03450 450 051, or email duncan.vessey@scambs.gov.uk**

**• IMAGES One of our houses before, during and after insulation work**

## A village voice to connect people

**South Cambridgeshire is a great place to live – but with over 100 villages spread over 350 square miles, and no main town, do you sometimes find it hard to get your voice heard as a tenant or leaseholder?**

Then you might want to become a Village Voice – a new take on an old theme that aims to give you better contact with your landlord – us – the Council.

By stepping forward you will be the focus for tenant and leaseholder views in your village, from grass cutting to the housing strategy. We will make sure you have training, are given good support, and are kept informed of Council initiatives. You will be able to share views with us through phone calls, reports, emails, and quarterly Village Voice meetings.

**To find out more call Gill Anderton on 03450 450 051, or come along to one of our Open Days in September or October (see opposite)**

# Tenant Led Open Days

## If you are a tenant or leaseholder of South Cambs District Council come along and get some advice and information on

**Housing**
**Benefits & Welfare**
**Repairs**
**Ageing Well**
**Employment**
**Youth Initiatives**
**Tenant Groups**
**Scrutiny**

Three open days across the district to give you more information on the housing service and how getting involved makes it better

**Meet your elected tenant reps, local housing staff, councillors and the contractors that work on your homes**

**Refreshments, Free parking**

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### Dates for your diary:

Saturday 8 September at
**Impington Village College**

Saturday 29 September at
**Melbourn Village College**

Saturday 20 October at
**Sawston Village College**

**Entertainment for children**

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# New sheltered housing service underway

**A new era in our sheltered housing service began in July after an 18 month project working with tenants to tailor it to people's individual needs.**

To make the changes to the service, tenants were first assessed so that we had a picture of their requirements. Just before the change over to the new system, council officers visited all 41 sheltered housing schemes to talk to people about how the changes may affect them.

The service is now provided by two distinct teams – the sheltered estate and visiting support teams. Every scheme has a sheltered estate officer who manages three or four sites and they are the first point of contact. Tenants will know who they are and have their mobile telephone number to contact them direct. Your estate officer will:

- meet new residents when they first move into their home, introduce them to neighbours, tell them about access to the communal room and activities, and explain how the alarm system and laundry facilities work
- carry out estate inspections with housing officers – you can attend these as well
- test the smoke detectors, pull cords and pendants (if supplied) in your property on a monthly basis
- report and monitor repairs for the communal rooms and estates
- help you if you have a problem with a repair you have reported
- manage the communal room, ensuring it complies with health and safety requirements, and be responsible for external bookings of the room
- work with you to encourage use of the communal room, and look at ways it can be used –fitness classes, art classes and book clubs etc
- refer residents to the visiting support service if their circumstances change.

The visiting support service – which is paid for by the County Council – is now targeted at residents assessed as needing support. Residents' circumstances and support needs may change from time to time so you can be referred to the service at any point. Over the next year or so the County Council will be reviewing the support service.

**• ABOVE Council officers met with tenants to discuss changes to the sheltered housing service**

Visiting support officers provide support for a number of reasons, including helping new residents set up utility bills, source new furniture and settle into their homes. They also arrange short or long term care for people coming out of hospital, assisting with budgeting or managing debt issues and helping with access to other services that help with their physical and mental health, or emotional well-being.

We will be reporting back to the councillor in charge of housing early in the New Year as we monitor the new service. We are keen to hear your thoughts and encourage you to speak to your representatives who attend the sheltered housing forums. If your scheme is not represented you are welcome to come along. All we ask is that you share information with other residents at your site. If you're interested please speak to your sheltered estate officer.

# Calling all equity share leaseholders

● **ABOVE** Lease holders can put their views across at their forum.

**Our leaseholders are important customers and in recognition of this, a leaseholder forum was set up to formally acknowledge their views, concerns and interests. It is also a valuable way to provide feedback to leaseholders.**

The forum gives leaseholders the opportunity to contribute to the improvement of the service they receive, and we really value your opinions.

Common topics for discussion at the forum include the service charge, issues around sheltered housing, and tenant participation. When the agenda is set we try to make sure that the appropriate council officers attend to address any questions.

We're putting out a call for more people to join as new attendees are always welcome. If you are interested in coming along, we will need to add you to our mailing list to make sure that you know when the next meeting will be held. Transport can be arranged if necessary.

**Please contact Becky Gane on 01954 713334 or email rebecca.gane@scambs.gov.uk**

## You're helping us improve

**Thank you to those of you who returned two recent surveys.**

The 'Your Service' questionnaire has helped us get to know our tenants and leaseholders better. We can't change things, or target services, if we don't know your views. We spend your rent money and want to make sure it's spent fairly.

For example, where we know there is a concentration of older or disabled people we would tailor our services accordingly. Or if you tell us that you have problems reading small print we will send correspondence in large print, and if you have limited mobility we tell our contractors that you might take longer to answer the door.

There are rules to ensure that the information you provide is protected, and remember, if you don't want to tell us something you don't have to.

In a second survey we asked you what you think of our services with one in five of you responding. We now know:

- **80%** are satisfied with the overall housing service
- **62%** are satisfied that we listen to their views and act upon them
- **78%** are satisfied that the rent for their property represents value for money
- **75%** are satisfied with the way we deal with repairs and maintenance
- **And finally 92%** are satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live.

These results give us a focus to improve services and we'll work with you to improve how we communicate with you.

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